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# FOREWORD

This booklet contains information from both the California Fish and Game Code (FGC) and Title 14, California Code of Regulations (Title 14). Code sections are cited in parentheses to help the reader refer to original sections digested. For detailed information, refer to the appropriate code or contact the Department of Fish and Game (Department).

All species may be taken without restriction except those mentioned by name. Whenever a species is mentioned in this digest, only those conditions specifically described are permitted. Species not mentioned in this digest by name are not restricted as to area in which they may be taken, bag limit, size, or season.

Regulations governing commercial fishing gear are permissive. Only those types of fishing gear listed in the code may be used and only under the conditions prescribed. All other types of gear not mentioned are illegal.

These excerpts are provided as a courtesy and are not to be used as legal documents. Since the codes may be amended at any time, it is the reader's responsibility to be knowledgeable of, and abide by all laws and regulations in effect at the time he/she participates in any commercial fishing activity. Any discrepancies between this document and the code(s) from which it was prepared will be enforced and adjudicated according to the official code(s) in effect on the date the activity takes place.

Official copies of the Commission's orders as set forth in Title 14 may be purchased from Barclay's Law Publishers, P.O. Box 3066, South San Francisco, CA 94083-3066, (415) 244-6611. Title 14 can be viewed at [ccr.oal.ca.gov](http://ccr.oal.ca.gov).

Copies of the FGC may be purchased from Lexis Nexis Gould Publications, P. O. Box 7587, Charlottesville, VA, 22906-7587, (800) 446-3410, or [www.lexisnexis.com/bookstore.com](http://www.lexisnexis.com/bookstore.com). The Fish and Game Code can be viewed at [www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html).

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## Designed by: Brian Shamrock, Department of Fish and Game

On the cover is a photo of the Department of Fish and Game enforcement's patrol vessels (P/V) and the areas they cover:

P/V Marlin, Berkeley	P/V Steelhead, Monterey
P/V Swordfish, Ventura	P/V Coho, Long Beach
P/V Thresher, Dana Point	

Photo courtesy of Matt Elyash of the California Department of Fish and Game.

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## FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

The Mission of the California Fish and Game Commission is, on behalf of California citizens, to ensure the long term sustainability of California's fish and wildlife resources by:

- Guiding the ongoing scientific evaluation and assessment of California's fish and wildlife resources;
- Setting California's fish and wildlife resource management policies and insuring these are implemented by the Department of Fish and Game;
- Establishing appropriate fish and wildlife resource management rules and regulations; and
- Building active fish and wildlife resource management partnerships with individual landowners, the public and interest groups, and federal, State and local resource management agencies.

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

*The mission of the Department of Fish and Game is to manage California's diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.*

The Department is charged with the administration and enforcement of the FGC and Title 14. The Department is organized with the Director and headquarters staff in Sacramento, with seven regional managers coordinating the operations in their respective portions of the State. The Director is the appointing power of all Department employees, who are responsible to the Director for the proper performance of their duties and responsibilities.

Most of the revenue for the Department comes from the Fish and Game Preservation Fund, with a limited amount from other sources (General Fund, Sport Fish Restoration Act, Environmental License Plate Fund, and grants). The Fish and Game Preservation Fund is supported by the sale of sport fishing and hunting licenses, commercial licenses, fish landing taxes, and fines and penalties assessed for violation of Fish and Game laws.

## From the Center for Marine Conservation...

Discarded fishing line, net, bait bags, and trash that enters the marine environment needlessly kill marine wildlife. Floating plastic rope and line also foul boat propellers, and plastic bags clog seawater intakes causing engine failure and costly repairs. If a boater is stranded, the situation can become life-threatening. In 1988, an international treaty, MARPOL, Annex V, took effect. This law bans the dumping of plastic in navigable waters, such as rivers, lakes, canals, streams, bays, and the ocean.

It is also a California offense to litter from shore. Become part of the solution, keep trash out of our oceans and waterways. Secure any loose fishing line and trash to ensure it does not enter the water. Where possible, retrieve trash floating in the water or on shore and share your concern with others by encouraging them to help. Ultimately, the solution to marine debris lies with those who care about the future of the aquatic environment and its living resources.